

ON THE RELATIVE CLAIM TO PRIORITY OF THE NAMES
HELIX FRUTICUM, MÜLLER, AND *H. CARDUELIS*, SCHULZE.

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My attention has been drawn to a paper by Herr Hans Honigmann in *Abh. Ber. Mus. Nat. Heim. Kunde*, ii, 1909, in which, on p. 44, the author once more resuscitates the name *Helix carduelis*, attributed to Schulze (1770). According to the rules of nomenclature the latter in reality dates from 1855, when it was adopted by T. Reibisch in a paper dealing with the Mollusca of the Kingdom of Saxony, published in *Allgem. Deuts. Naturh. Zeit. Ges. Isis*, Dresden, Neue Folge, i, p. 415, 1855, in preference to the name *H. fruticum*, described by Müller in *Verm. terr. fluv.*, ii, p. 71, 1774.

Although several German authors have already dealt with the matter in a somewhat cursory manner, I consider it advisable to place the facts of the case on record, especially since the serial in which Schulze's paper appeared is not accessible to everyone, the only copy in London apparently being at the British Museum, Bloomsbury, and as, moreover, Herr Honigmann has not seen the original. He introduces the subject by stating that Herr Vohland, of Leipzig, has called his attention to the fact that four years before Müller published his description of the species (1774) a paper by Schulze entitled "Nachricht von dem ohnweit Dresden befindlichen Zschonengrunde, und von den darinnen vorhandenen Seltenheiten der Natur" appeared in the seventh volume of the *Neues Hamburgischen Magazin* for 1770, in which a description of the present species is given, namely under the name of *H. carduelis*, but he admits that unfortunately this work has been inaccessible to him. He states nevertheless that in future the species must bear the name proposed by Schulze.

The copy in the British Museum of the volume of the serial in question, containing Schulze's paper, is not marked vol. vii. It contains six parts, each with a separate title-page, the first one being numbered thirty-seventh part. The last page, however, is marked as end of seventh volume. On p. 48 of this volume, under a reference to "Tabel 2, Fig. 4", the following paragraph occurs: "Die fünfte Art kommt in den meisten Stücken mit der beschriebenen *Helice nemorale* überein [here follows a comparative description of the species and its habitat] . . . Linnäus siehet diese Schnecke in der seiner Fn. S.N. 1294, beygefügtten Anmerkung für eine Art der *Helicis nemoralis* an. Sie verdienen aber, wegen der angezeigten Umstände, billig eine besondere Stelle, und man könnte Sie

Cochleam umbilicatum, *testa utrinque convexa, diaphana, apertura semicirculari*, oder auch

Cochleam carduelem, Die Distelschnecke nennen."

This may be rendered thus: "The fifth species agrees in the majority of specimens with the description of *Helix nemoralis* . . . Linné, in a note appended to his Fn. S.N. 1294, regards this shell as a form of *H. nemoralis*. It really deserves, however, on account of the circumstances indicated, special rank, and it might be named *Cochleam umbilicatum*, etc., or even *C. carduelem*, the thistle snail." It will be seen from the foregoing that in no sense can Schulze's paper be said to comply with the requirements of the rules of nomenclature. The name *carduelis*, consequently, can only be regarded as dating from 1855, and must remain a synonym of *H. fruticum*, Müller (1774).

The German authors alluded to as having previously dealt with the subject are: Adolph Schmidt, in Zeits. Gesammt. Naturw., viii, p. 121 et seq., 1856, who pronounces against *H. (Cochlea) carduelis*, Schulze, unearthed by Reibisch. L. Pfeiffer, in Malak. Blätt., iv, p. 78, 1857, when reviewing the preceding paper, states it is a doubtful case, but subsequently, in Mon. Helic. Viv., iv, p. 251, 1859, he relegates *carduelis* to the synonymy of *H. fruticum*. Von Martens, in Nachr. Blatt. Deuts. Malak. Ges., ii, p. 51, 1870, in dealing with the literature of the Mollusca of Germany, enumerates, *inter alia*, Reibisch's paper, and refers to *carduelis*, Schulze, 1770, adding in brackets ("the well-known *fruticum*").
